

Radio Stamps
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DX Partyline Program
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Hello again, and welcome to the second edition of *Radio Stamps* in 1993. A special welcome, as always, if you're listening to the program for the first time. This is program 28, and I have a collecting tip for you today for a postage stamp, from an island nation in the Pacific Ocean, on the subject of radio stations on stamps.

It's great to be back on the DX Partyline Program. As mentioned the last time, I'm sorry there wasn't a *Radio Stamps* feature from October to January. After a twenty year career in museums, I returned to university in the fall to pursue my interests in science education. I'm a full-time student this year in the Teacher Education Program, at the University of Ottawa. There hasn't been much time for hobby interests, like my monthly *Radio Stamps* program, here on HCJB, or my quarterly *Radio Stamps* column in the Journal of the North American Shortwave Association. I'm happy to report that I have more hours of free time this term, and I'll be doing my best to keep *Radio Stamps* on the air each month, on the first Saturday of the month, here on the DX Partyline program of HCJB.

During the past year I've featured a variety of radio stamps from Russia, Ascension Island, Dominican Republic, India, and when I couldn't find a radio stamps country that started with O, I substituted the next letter in the alphabet and visited Peru. The stamps I featured on the last program in 1992 were from the Solomon Islands. To start off 1993, I dedicated the first *Radio Stamps* program this year to Radio St. Helena and the island nation of St. Helena, in the Atlantic Ocean between Africa and South America. To complete this alphabetical puzzle in 1993, I'll be featuring radio stamps from countries that start with T, A, M and P. Then it will be time for another *Radio Stamps* contest.

Since the *Radio Stamps* program started in 1990, there have been 17 contest winners from 8 different countries around the world - Australia, Canada, England, Germany, New Zealand, Sweden, Trinidad & Tobago, and the United States. The prizes I've given away, from my own collection, or provided by radio stations and individuals, include first day covers, stamp collections and T-shirts. I hope you'll be listening to the *Radio Stamps* program for clues in the next few months, and I hope you'll be entering the next contest.

Today we're visiting the island nation of Tuvalu in the Pacific Ocean. Tuvalu, spelled T-u-v-a-l-u, is a grouping of 9 islands forming a northwest-southeast chain about 360 miles long in the southwest Pacific. The nearest neighbours are Samoa on the southeast and Fiji to the south. Before 1975 you would find these islands in an atlas as part of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands. The Ellice Islands separated from the British colony that year then, in 1978, became the independent commonwealth country of Tuvalu.

It would certainly be a great DX catch to hear Radio Tuvalu on mediumwave, and I hope you'll have a chance someday to hear the station. In the meantime, there is a postage stamp you can add to your collection for Radio Tuvalu. On November 18, 1983, Tuvalu issued a set of 4 commemorative postage stamps for World Communications Year. One stamp in that set, with a denomination of 50 cents, shows the transmitting facilities of the station at Funafuti, complete with the radio towers and the antenna system in the foreground, and the palm trees, beach and ocean in the background. As I record this

program with the snow just outside my window, the setting for Radio Tuvalu looks very inviting. The Scott catalogue number for this multi-coloured stamp is 215. Like St. Helena, radio plays an important role on Tuvalu, and it's not surprising that Radio Tuvalu is featured on a postage stamp. This stamp would make a great addition to your collection.

As I mentioned on the last program, one of my teaching interests is shortwave radio in the classroom. I'd be pleased to hear from other teachers around the world that use shortwave radio as an educational tool in their classroom. Just today, for example, I received a letter from Brian Callahan at Galloway Road Public School in Pickering, Ontario, here in Canada. Thank you for your letter Brian, and I look forward to hearing how your project develops. If you use shortwave radio in your classroom, please drop me a line. I'll give you my mailing address at the end of this feature.

The *Radio Stamps* program is sponsored by the North American Shortwave Association. The club is underwriting the costs of mailing this volunteer program to HCJB. The North American Shortwave Association has membership across Canada and the United States, and around the world. The club produces the monthly Journal, and *Radio Stamps* is featured as quarterly column with illustrations and collecting tips for postage stamps, meter stamps, postal cancellations and other philatelic material on the topic of radio. If you'd like to write to the club, here's the address: North American Shortwave Association, 45 Wildflower Road, Levittown, spelled L-e-v-i-t-t-o-w-n, in Pennsylvania, or PA for short. The zip code in the United States is 19507. The address again is the North American Shortwave Association, 45 Wildflower Road, Levittown, PA, 19507, U.S.A.

That's all for today. I hope to hear from you in 1993 with *Radio Stamps* news. I hope too that you'll write to me if you're a teacher that uses shortwave radio in your classroom. As promised, here's my mailing address. Neil Carleton, that's spelled N-e-i-l C-a-r-l-e-t-o-n, P.O. Box 1644, Almonte, spelled A-l-m-o-n-t-e, Ontario, spelled O-n-t-a-r-i-o. The postal code here in Canada is K0A 1A0. The address again is Neil Carleton, P.O. Box 1644, Almonte, Ontario, K0A 1A0, Canada.

Until the next time, best wishes in 1993 for good listening and collecting.